

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A regenerated cellulose-based tubular food casing ~~which is comprising impregnated with~~ smoke aroma, wherein the L* value, determined by the CIE-LAB method, of the casing has decreased due to the ~~impregnation~~ impregnated smoke aroma by no more than 5 and before stuffing is still at least 40, and ~~in that~~ the L* value of the casing removed from ~~the food situated therein~~ is changed by no more than ±5.
2. (Original) The food casing as claimed in claim 1, wherein its L* value after the impregnation and before stuffing has decreased by 0.1 to 2.
3. (Original) The food casing as claimed in claim 1, wherein its L* value, after removal from the food, has decreased by 0.1 to 3.
4. (Currently Amended) The food casing as claimed in claim 1 ~~to 3~~, wherein the change of the a* value due to the impregnation is, before stuffing, not more than ±5[,] ~~preferably~~ ±1.
5. (Currently Amended) The food casing as claimed in ~~one or more of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to~~ 4, wherein the change of the b* value due to the impregnation is, before stuffing, no more than ±5[,] ~~preferably no more than~~ ±1.5.
6. (Currently Amended) The food casing as claimed in ~~one or more of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to~~ 5, wherein the change of the a* and b* value, after removal from the food, is no more than ±3[,] ~~preferably no more than~~ ±2.

7. (Currently Amended) The food casing as claimed in ~~one or more of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 6, wherein it has a fibrous reinforcement.

8. (Currently Amended) The food casing as claimed in ~~one or more of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 7, wherein the fibrous reinforcement is a fibrous paper[[,] ~~preferably a hemp fiber paper~~.

9. (Currently Amended) The food casing as claimed in ~~one or more of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 8, wherein it is a white, cream-colored or chamois-colored casing having an L* value of more than 80[,,] ~~preferably more than 90~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The food casing as claimed in ~~one or more of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 9, wherein, on the inside, it additionally has an adhesion preparation.

11. (Currently Amended) The food casing as claimed in ~~one or more of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 10, wherein, on the inside, it additionally has a release preparation.

12. (Currently Amended) The food casing as claimed in ~~one or more of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 11, wherein it is finally processed[,,] ~~preferably in stick form as stirred stick, or in the form of sections tied off at one end~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a food casing as claimed in ~~one or more of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 12, ~~which comprises said method comprising~~ applying to the inside of a tubular cellulose-based food casing an impregnation liquid which comprises a smoke aroma having a weakly brown to yellow intrinsic color.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of the An artificial sausage casing comprising a food casing as claimed in one or more of~~ claim[[s]] 1 to 12 as ~~artificial sausage casing, in particular for raw sausage, particularly preferably for salami, hard smoked sausage and dried sausage~~.

15. (New) An artificial sausage casing as claimed in claim 14, wherein the casing is a salami casing, a hard smoked sausage casing or a dried sausage casing.

16. (New) A food casing as claimed in claim 12, wherein the food casing is in the form of a shirred stick or in the form of sections tied off at one end.